

Appl. No. 09/383,629
Amdt. Dated March 15, 2005
Reply to Office Action of November 15, 2005

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Currently amended) A method of performing call admission control upon receipt of a request for a new session comprising:

making an estimate of a new system FER which will result should the new session be admitted; and

deciding to admit or to deny the new session on the basis of the new system FER estimate[.]; ~~A method according to claim 1~~

wherein making the estimate of the new system FER comprises:

making an estimate of a previous system FER at the time of the request;

determining an estimate of a degradation in the system FER should the new session be admitted; and

combining the estimate of the degradation to the estimate of the previous system FER to obtain said estimate of the total system FER.

3. (Original) A method according to claim 2 wherein making an estimate of a previous system FER at the time of the request comprises measuring the system FER.

4. (Original) A method according to claim 2 wherein making an estimate of a previous system FER at the time of the request comprises:

starting with the previous system FER equal to an initial system FER;

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each time a session is admitted, adding the degradation estimated for the session to the previous system FER; and

each time a session is ended, subtracting a degradation reduction for the session from the previous system FER.

5. (Original) A method according to claim 2 further comprising:

maintaining an expected degradation in the system FER as a function of how many sessions have been admitted;

wherein determining an estimate of a degradation in the system FER should the new session be admitted comprises:

maintaining a current count of how many sessions have been admitted; and

setting the estimate of the degradation in the system FER equal to the expected degradation for the current count.

6. (Original) A method according to claim 2 wherein the request for a new session identifies the session as having one of at least two different types, the method further comprising:

maintaining an expected degradation in the system FER as a function of how many sessions of each of said different types have been admitted;

wherein determining an estimate of the degradation in the system FER should the new session be admitted comprises:

maintaining a current count of how many sessions of each type have been admitted; and

setting the estimate of the degradation in the system FER equal to the expected degradation for the session's type and the type's current count.

7. (Original) A method according to claim 6 wherein maintaining an expected degradation in the

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system FER as a function of how many sessions of each of said different types have been admitted comprises:

generating test traffic with a predetermined ratio between numbers of sessions of each type; and

adding new sessions to the test traffic and making a measurement of the degradation in FER, and using these measurements as the expected degradations.

8. (Original) A method according to claim 6 further comprising:

identifying an initial value for the degradation in FER for the Nth session of each type;

each time an N+1th session of a particular type is admitted, making a measurement of the degradation which results; and

determining the expected degradation for the Nth session to be an average of up to K measurements for N+1th session admissions and the initial value for the Nth session if there are fewer than K measurements, where K is an integer greater than or equal to two.

9. (Original) A method according to claim 8 wherein identifying an initial value comprises:

generating test traffic with a predetermined ratio between numbers of sessions of each type; and

adding new sessions to the test traffic and making a measurement of the degradation in FER, and using these measurements as the initial values.

10. (Currently amended) A method according to claim [1]2 wherein admitting or denying the new session on the basis of the new FER estimate comprises:

comparing the new FER estimate to a target FER, and if the new FER estimate exceeds the target FER denying the session, and if the new FER estimate does not exceed the target FER admitting the session.

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11. (Original) A method according to claim 2 further comprising:

identifying an initial value for the degradation in FER for an Nth session admission;

making measurements of the degradation which results due to Nth session admissions; and

determining the expected degradation for the Nth session to be an average of up to K measurements for Nth session admissions and the initial value for the Nth session if there are fewer than K measurements, where K is an integer greater than or equal to two.

12. (Original) A method according to claim 11 wherein one of said measurements of the degradation which results due to Nth session admissions is taken around the time an N+1th session admission occurs.

13. (Original) A method according to claim 11 wherein one of said measurements of the degradation which results due to Nth session admissions is taken before an N+1th session admission occurs and after the Nth session has been active for long enough for a meaningful measurement to be taken.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Cancelled)

20. An article of manufacture comprising:

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a computer usable medium having computer readable code means embodied therein for performing call admission control, the computer readable code means in said article of manufacture comprising:

computer readable code means for making an estimate of a new system FER which will result should a new session be admitted; and

computer readable code means for deciding to admit or to deny the new session on the basis of the new system FER estimate[.]; ~~An article of manufacture according to claim 19 further comprising:~~

computer readable code means for making an estimate of a previous system FER at a time of the request;

computer readable code means for determining an estimate of a degradation in the system FER should the new session be admitted; and

computer readable code means for combining the estimate of the degradation to the estimate of the previous system FER to obtain said estimate of the total system FER.